

of strips of bark of the large heath, which grows plentifully in the forests, and a few feathers.

"The nest of *Sylvia sarda* is also one which has been seldom taken by a naturalist. In this case the male was incubating and allowed himself to be touched with the hand before leaving the eggs. The nest is considerably larger than that of *S. undata*.

"I also procured a clutch of 5 eggs of the local race of Tree-Creeper, *Certhia familiaris corsa*, and believe it to be the first ever taken, but the eggs differ little from those of other races."

Mr. J. D. LA TOUCHE forwarded the following description of a new species of Sand-Martin from China :—

COTILE FOHKIENENSIS, sp. n.

Adult male and female.—Near *C. riparia*, but smaller, and with a nearly square tail. Uniform pale brownish-grey above, lighter on the rump. Underparts pure white, with a rather pale brownish-grey band across the breast. Wing 3·7 to 4 in.; tail 1·7 to 1·78 in., depth of fork of tail 0·15 to 0·25 in.

Obs. This Sand-Martin is a resident in the province of Fohkien, in South-east China. It summers at Chinkiang, on the Lower Yangtze. Mr. Rickett and I confounded it with *C. riparia*, which is a much larger and darker bird, with a comparatively deeply-forked tail. I have lately obtained examples of the true *C. riparia*, L., on migration on the coast of Kiangsu, and I procured *C. sinensis* in Formosa. The Fohkien Sand-Martin is intermediate between the two, having the pale-coloured upperparts and smaller proportions of the latter; a tuft of feathers on the tarsus and a pectoral band, as in *C. riparia* *.

* [From *C. diluta*, Sharpe & Wyatt, from Tashkend, it is distinguished by its nearly square tail and its altogether darker coloration.

The bird procured by Mr. Pratt at Ichang, as well as specimens from Madras (Jerdon) and Pushut, Afghanistan (Griffith), referred with doubt by Dr. Sharpe to *C. diluta* (Sharpe & Wyatt, Mon. Hirund. i. p. 63), appear to be referable to *C. fohkienensis*, La Touche.—Ed.]